

8,700 BC

In Iran (Tepe, Aush, and Dargander
c 6450 BC) goatherds and shepherds had
twenty different symbols: spheres, cones,
disks (some with incisions) cylinders,
tetrahedrons, and so on. This system
of reckoning spread throughout south-
western Asia and to the Indus Valley
and the upper Nile persisting with little
change for 5000 years.

8,700 BC

Sheep domesticated.

8,700 BC

Sheep domesticated in Near East

8,700 BC

Goats and sheep were items of
wealth in IRAN (thus domesticated
prior to this)

8,700 BC

Sheep domesticated in Near East

8,700 BC

ACCOUNTANCY .

Iron, symbolic clay tokens

8,700 BC

Goats were tamed.

10,200 yrs ago = 8,700 BC

Goats & sheep were domesticated in the hills of Iran, their herders were sufficiently proprietorial about their animals to count them and pledge them, using the oldest known system of accountancy. The information technology that led to writing and numerals began with the invention of small clay tokens in the form of spheres, disks, cones and

cylinders. These appeared in Iran at a site well trodden by goats. Twenty different symbols represented commodities such as sheep or measures of grain. The tokens were apparently pledges for offerings of food to be given ceremonially to a leader for redistribution among other members of the group. If so, they enabled the leader and his clerk to plan communal affairs, in a goatherd's bureaucracy. The tokens turned up 2000 km away in Anatolia at about the same time. This evolved into writing 5000 years later.